

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the status of the claims, as presented in the "*Literal English Translation of P.C.T. Application No. PCT/CH2003/000392*," as indicated below:

Claims 1-14 (canceled)

15. (new) A self-opener closure for composite packagings or for container spouts to be closed with film material, comprising:

a pour-out spout capable of being sealingly assembled onto a composite packaging, a container spout or bottle spout closed with a film material;

rotary cap for said pour-out spout; and,

a self-opener sleeve within said pour-out spout, said self-opener sleeve being rotatable by said rotary cap and having at a lower edge and projecting from said lower edge of self-opener sleeve, least one combined piercing and cutting member, and with said self-opener sleeve, said pour-out spout and said rotary cap being equipped with guide and transmission means cooperating with one another, so that upon rotating said rotary cap for an initial time in a direction for opening, said self-opener sleeve is pushable axially downwards in said pour-out spout, said initial time, without rotation, and for subsequent times is rotatable about a rotary axis of said self-opener sleeve without axial movement.

16. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 15, wherein on a lower side of said rotary cap, and concentrically to said lower side, a spout integrally formed with a projecting edge at a lower end of said spout, over which a nipple, with an inwardly projecting edge on its upper side, is pushable, wherein two projecting edges engage behind one another, via said nipple after being pushed, are rotatable relative to said spout integrally formed on said lower side of said rotary cap lower side and are longitudinally displaceable in an axial direction, with a free displacement path in said axial direction corresponding, at least, to an axial path of said rotary cap, which executes upon rotating in said direction for opening for said initial time, until said self-opener sleeve is pushed axially downwards in said pour-out spout and is subsequently rotatable by 360° about its rotational axis without axial movement.

17. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 16, wherein said nipple is connected to said self-opener sleeve via thin-material webs for acting as break-off locations.

18. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 15, wherein said guide and transmission means on said rotary cap cooperating with one another include two cylinder wall segments on an inner side of a lid of said rotary cap, said lid being concentric to an axis of said rotary cap, and a

lower edge of said two cylinder wall segments lying in an axial direction form a guide curve cooperating with said force transmission means on said self-opener sleeve, which comprise two cams on an upper inner edge of said self-opener sleeve and that the guide means cooperating with one another comprising guide ribs on an outer side of said self-opener sleeve and guide webs on an inner side of said pour-out spout, so that upon rotating said rotary cap in said direction for opening for said initial time, said self-opener sleeve is initially vertically pushable downwardly into said pour out spout and, subsequently, and horizontally rotatable by approximately 360°.

19. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 15, wherein projecting from said lower edge of said self-opener sleeve are two combined piercing and cutting members approximately diametrically opposite one another, with said guide and force transmission means on said rotary cap cooperating with one another comprising three cylinder wall segments concentric relative to an axis of a lid of said rotary cap, with a lower edge of said three cylinder wall segments, lying in an axial direction, forming a guide curve cooperating with said guide and transmission means on said self-opener sleeve comprising three cams on an upper inner edge of said self-opener sleeve and said guide means cooperating with one another comprising guide ribs on an outer side of said self-opener sleeve and guide webs (8) on an inner

side of said pour-out spout, so that upon rotating said rotary cap said direction of opening for said initial time, said self-opener sleeve is initially pushable vertically and downwardly into said pour-out spout and, subsequently, is rotatable over approximately 180° in the horizontal.

20. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 15, wherein said guide and transmission means on said rotary cap include a plurality of cylinder wall segments on an inner side of a lid of said rotary cap concentric to an axis of said rotary cap with a lower edge of said rotary cap lying therebelow, in an axial direction, forming two edge sections ascending counter to one another, and displaced to one another in said axial direction in a stepped manner, wherein a first edge section, as seen from below into said lid of said rotary cap ascends in a counterclockwise direction from a level of said lid of said rotary cap, and a second counter ascending edge section ascends in a clockwise direction from a level of the end of a first ascending edge section, and that said guide and transmission means on said self-opener sleeve includes a plurality of catching means on an upper edge thereof, with each said piercing and cutting member on said self-opener sleeve including a piercing cutter projecting from a lower sleeve edge with a sharpened tip and with cutting edges sharpened in a circumferential direction of said self-opener sleeve, along with said guide and transmission means on said self-opener sleeve cooperating with one

another comprising a plurality of guide ribs distributed over its circumference on an outer wall, with in each case two vertical sections and a horizontal section (22) connecting these on an upper side, and guide webs cooperating with said plurality of guide ribs on an inner wall of said pour-out spout, said plurality of guide webs having horizontal sections, wherein in an initial rotational position of said self-opener sleeve applied in said pour-out spout relative to said pour-out spout, extends over circumferential sections on said self-opener sleeve which remain free, wherein at least said two horizontal sections, as seen from above onto said pour-out spout in a clockwise direction, comprise a vertical section connecting thereto, so that on unturning said rotary cap, said self-opener sleeve is vertically guided therein, so that a catching cam on said pour-out sleeve is pushable downwardly along said vertical sections of said plurality of guide ribs and said plurality of guide webs by said ascending edge section on a cylinder wall segment reaching upwards to said lid of said rotary cap, until said catching cam abuts on a step, and subsequently sets by said step into a horizontal rotation below and along said horizontal sections (22) of said plurality of guide ribs and said plurality of guide webs.

21. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 20, wherein said rotary cap is a threaded cap having an inner thread with said pour-out spout being a threaded spout with

an outer thread, and that one guide rib of said plurality of guide ribs is distributed on the outer wall of said self-opener sleeve over its circumference and extends over that circumferential region over which said piercing cutter extends, and that that said vertical section of said guide rib, as seen from above in the counterclockwise direction, is located in front of said piercing cutter, thus preceding it on rotation in the counterclockwise direction and extending upwardly to said lower edge of said self-opener sleeve, and at said lower inner edge of said pour-out spout there is formed an inwardly projecting abutment cam, wherein in an initial position of said self-opener sleeve applied in said pour-out spout, bears on location of said sharpened tip of said piercing cutter, wherein an effective height and pitch of a thread on said threaded cap (1) is dimensioned so that said self-opener sleeve is, initially, pushable vertically downwardly by said guide and transmission means up to a screwed-free position of said threaded cap until said piercing cutter projects beyond said lower edge of said pour-out spout, and, subsequently, is rotatably over approximately 360° in a horizontal plane, in which position said vertical section of said guide rib reaching up to said edge abuts said abutment cam, thereby preventing a further rotation of said self-opener sleeve.

22. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 20, wherein said edge sections of said cylinder wall sec-

tions, as seen from below into said threaded cap, ascend into a clockwise direction and are dimensioned, so that upon screwing said threaded cap onto said pour-out spout, after its unscrewing for said initial time, in each case slide twice over said inwardly projecting cams on said self-opener sleeve, thereby resulting in a downwardly push within said pour-out spout in two thrusts.

23. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 15, wherein each said combined piercing and cutting member on said self-opener sleeve is a piercing cutter projecting from said lower edge of said self-opener sleeve formed as an isosceles triangle with a tip projecting downwardly lying between two equal length limbs of said isosceles triangle, with free triangle sides facing in a circumferential direction and forming a sharp edge.

24. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 15, wherein an inner side of said self-opener sleeve is coated with a soluble substance.

25. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 15, wherein said rotary cap includes a lid with a metering spout being integrally formed on a lower side of said lid, said metering spout.

26. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 15, wherein on said lower edge of said rotary cap a guarantee

strip is integrally formed with a plurality of fine material bridges pushable over a bead which is circumferential on said pour-out spout below its outer thread and encloses said pour-out spout on a lower side of said bead.

27. (new) The self-opener closure according to Claim 15, wherein an outer circumferential side of said rotary cap forms a knurled or grooved grip surface, and in an upper side of said rotary cap there is at least one diametrical groove or a diametrically upwardly projecting web.